THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had issued instructions to all scheduled commercial banks in November, 1984 to provide assistance in the form of loans to persons affected by November, 1984 riots in Delhi and other parts of the country to enable them to rehabilitate themselves. Banks were instructed to pay particular attention to the credit needs o all small persons, *viz.* taxi, truck and other transport operators.

(b) The concessional rate of 12.5 per cent was applicable to all fresh advances aggregating upto Rs. 5 lakhs for all categories of affected persons. This rate of interest was to be allowed for a period of 3 to 5 years for working capital finance and up to 7 years for term lonas. The period of loan was to vary from 3 to 5 years depending upon the need and future repaying capacity.

(c) and (d) The Government has not issued any instructions regarding writing off these loans. However, RBI had advised the banks in December, 1989 to review the credit facilities granted to the November, 1984 affected borrowers and provide relief which may conclude further extension of time for payment of dues, entering into compromise arrangements and in cases where there are no reasonable chances of recovery of dues, write off the amount due from the borrowers.

(e) and (f) Do not arise.

**Pending Court Cases regarding Customs and Central Excise**

3764. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA:
SHRI ANANT RAM JAISWAL:
SHRI RAM GOPAL YADAV:
SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that various cases regarding revenue of Customs and Central Ercise are pending in different courts;

(b) if so, the number of such cases pending in the courts and the steps being taken by Government to recover such revenue;

(c) what is the progress of CERAT and Settlement Commission in Custom and Central Excise; and

(d) by when Government propose to set up the Tribunal and the Commission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As on 1.5.92, there are 1,687 customs cases and 2785 central excise cases pending before Supreme Court and 9,749 customs cases and 5,983 central excise cases pending before various High Courts.

Steps being taken for expeditious finalisation of court cases include periodical review and monitoring at various levels, moving courts for early hearings and vacation of stays, close liaison with Law Ministry and their Branch Secretariats, requesting High Courts and Supreme Court for taking up bunch of cases, issue-wise, requesting courts for allocating special bench for dealing with customs and central excise cases and making senior officers like Collectors and Principal Collectors responsible for pursuing the matters.

(c) The Tribunal, in pursuance of the Customs and Excise Revenue Appellate Tribunal Act, 1986 (No. 62 of 1986), could not be set up as writ petitions were filed in Bombay and Delhi High Courts challenging the vires of the Act. The details of the amendments to the Act are being worked out in the light of the directions of the Bombay High Court in their interim order.

A proposal for setting up a Settlement Commission for prompt settlement of customs and central excise cases is under active consideration, the details of which are being worked out.

(d) It is too early to indicate any time-limit by which the Tribunal and the Settlement Commission will be set up.

**SEBI Report on Securities Scam**

3765. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) year in which the SEBI was formed;

(b) whether Government have received any report/opinion from the SEBI about the recent securities scam;

(c) if so, when such a report was received; and

(d) what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) was initially constituted by the Government by a resolution dated 12th April, 1988.

(b) No specific report/opinion has been received from SEBI in this regard.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

**विदेशी मुद्रा भंडार के संबंध में आंकड़े**

3766. **श्री प्रमोद महाजन :** क्या **वित्त** मंत्री 28 जुलाई, 1992 को राज्य सभा में तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या 282 के दिये गए उत्तर को देखेंगे और विदेशी ऋणों, विदेशी सहायता और अप्रवासी भारतीयों द्वारा जमा के रूप में मई, 1992 के अंत में विदेशी मुद्रा भंडार (5458 मिलियन डालर) के आंकड़े बताने की कृपा करेंगे ?

**वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री रामेश्वर ठाकुर) :** किसी विशेष समय पर भण्डारों की स्थिति, विदेशी क्षेत्र में सभी लेन देनों का निवल परिणाम है। इसलिए विदेशी ऋणों विदेशी सहायताओं और अनिवासी भारतीयों की जमा के संदर्भ में विदेशी मुद्रा भंडार-स्तर के ब्यौरे तैयार करना सम्भव नहीं है।

**Guidelines for loans for purchase of vehicles**

3767. DR ISHWAR CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the broad outlines for granting loan to operators by nationalised banks for the purchase of trucks and passenger vehicles;

(b) the number of trucks and buses financed separately by nationalised banks in each State, particularly in Kanpur city, during the period from 1985-86 and 1991-92;

(c) what are the reasons for decline, if any, in the number of trucks and busses financed; and

(d) steps taken or proposed to be taken to encourage trucks transport industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) As per the guidelines of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) advances to small road transport operators owning a fleet of vehicles not exceeding six vehicles including the one proposed to be financed are eligible for inclusion under priority sector. These borrowers get bank finance at concessional terms relating to margin, security, rate of interest, etc. as under:

(i) *Margin*: For credit limits upto and inclusive of Rs. 25,000/- no margin is required. A margin of 15 to 25 per cent has been prescribed for credit limits exceeding Rs. 25,000.

(ii) *Security Norms*: For credit limits upto and inclusive of Rs. 25,000 hypothecation of the assets created out of the loan (i.e. vehicle) is sufficient. Banks have been advised not to ask for collateral security/third party guarantee for loans upto and inclusive of Rs 25,000. For credit limits in excess of Rs. 25,000 banks have to determine the security on merits of each case. In these cases collateral security by